

**Rural Library Survey
Summary Report Part II
Summary of Responses to the “Other” Category**

Concerns

Theme	N
• Unemployment/Underemployment	62
• Poor economy	41
• Changing demographics	28
• Funding challenges	25
• Education & youth	20
• Indifferent population	18
• Isolation	16
• Development	11
• Language barriers	9
• Taxes	9
• Outreach	6
• Human and technical resources	5
• Miscellaneous	6

Challenges

Theme	N
• Inadequate space	38
• Lack of money	26
• Need for outreach	21
• Lack of qualified staff	20
• Equipment	17
• Poor collection	14
• Lack of leadership	13
• Adapting to change	6
• All of the above	4
• Overworked staff	4
• Miscellaneous	7

Urgent Needs

Theme	N
• Library skills	27
• Time & space	20
• Human resources	15
• Staff development	15
• Marketing skills	11
• Financial support	7

- Changing technology 4
- Miscellaneous 14

Technology Needs

Theme	N
• Both hardware and software	24
• Schools	21
• Hardware	14
• Infrastructure	14
• Other collaborations	11
• Libraries	7
• Training	5
• Connectivity	5
• Software	4
• Miscellaneous	8

Collaborations

Theme	N
• Schools	94
• Libraries	72
• Business	17
• Community organizations	15
• Government	7
• Arts organizations	6
• Native Tribes	4
• Foundations	4
• Hospital	3
• Miscellaneous	6

ALA Resources

Theme	N
• Financial aid	21
• Schools	17
• Libraries	16
• Advocacy for library funding and support	14
• ALA costs	10
• Staff development	10
• Public sector	6
• Graphics and marketing resources	5

- Private sector 4
- Publications 4
- Online communication 4
- Miscellaneous 15

Clustered Verbatim Responses

Other Concerns

Unemployment/Underemployment

- Broadening job opportunities
- Economic Development - Jobs
- Economic development to provide jobs
- Economic development/jobs
- Economic opportunity, i.e. jobs
- Employment (3)
- Employment availability
- Employment opportunities - lack of
- Job creation
- Job loss (4)
- Job loss, not really poverty yet but not enough money
- Job stability
- Job training - distance learning
- Jobs (4)
- Lack of employment
- Lack of employment opportunities
- Lack of good jobs
- Lack of jobs (7)
- Lack of local jobs
- Lack of well paying jobs
- Loss of jobs
- Loss of jobs
- Loss of jobs due to businesses moving
- Loss of manufacturing jobs, loss of family farms
- Need jobs for unemployed people
- No jobs
- People who have lost their jobs
- poverty level employment
- Training/education to develop/fill jobs in the area
- Underemployment
- Underemployment
- Unemployment (14)
- Unemployment, cultural differences
- Unemployment, underemployment
- Unemployment/underemployment

Poor economy

- Attracting business to maintain a town

- Businesses in town leaving
- Changes in economic base
- Closing of school libraries
- community growth
- Concern regarding town's economy
- Cost of living
- declining economy
- Economic Decline
- Economic development
- Economic development and viability
- Economic development/viability
- Economic development; growth
- economic growth
- Economic issues-high taxes; no state support for education; NH has no income
- Economic stagnation
- Economics
- Economy
- Economy, drought
- Economy/Economic Development
- Failing agricultural economy/assessments
- High property and school taxes because no industry/business taxpayers
- Lack of economic stability
- Loss of industry in the county
- Low income area
- No economic growth
- Poverty
- Poverty also
- Poverty also
- Roller coaster economy
- School district deeply in bad debt
- Severe drought has also had an impact on raising funds
- Slow business progress
- Slow growth
- Stable year round economy
- Stagnant economic growth
- Stagnate economic growth
- Survival of local businesses
- Transients/Poor economy
- Unstable economy - Mills closed)
- Waning industry & population

Changing demographics

- Aging population
- Aging population

- Aging population: Fixed income syndrome
- Aging reading population
- Available materials to serve older population
- Change of population make-up, haves/have not- re: computers
- changing demographics
- Changing population demographics
- Declining school enrollment
- Demographic change
- Diversity of population - Hispanic, Laotian, Ethiopian, White
- Middle class - low income
- Migrant population that does not stay in one location
- Needs of incoming Hispanics
- Out migration of talented, productive young people - leaving extreme gap
- population to sustain a high school
- Rapid population growth
- Rapid population growth also
- Rapid population growth also
- Semi-retirement community/fewer kids
- Senior community growth
- Shift in demographics
- Trying to meet the needs of a VERY diversified population
- Waning population

Funding difficulties

- Access budget cuts
- Attempting to keep the library open - no funds
- Being able to continue o fund infrastructure improvements
- Budget
- Budget cuts due to state regulations
- Cut backs in funding
- Decrease in funding
- Decreasing funds
- Education funding for K-12
- Funding
- Funding
- Funding by school district
- Funding for basic services - schools, healthcare, etc.
- Funding for schools
- Governor funding cuts
- lack of financial resources
- lack of financial resources
- Lack of funding from cities, counties, state and federal
- Lack of funds
- Lack of money for our school - NY is not funding schools at an adequate level

- Limited open hours
- loss of state aid to schools
- Money to continue and enhance the area
- Severe budget cuts
- State budget cuts

Education & youth

- Activities (Constructive) for youth/discipline/responsibility for actions
- Drug influence because lack of youth activities
- Drug use
- education level of tribal members
- Illiteracy
- Illiteracy also
- Illiteracy also
- Illiteracy-60% immigrant Hispanic population
- Lack of critical thinking skills
- Lack of reading skills
- Low academic achievement
- Low reading levels - lack of reading support at home
- Post high school students not furthering their education
- Serves school population 5 days a week
- Special education students
- Split between senior and preschool - elementary school age
- Students getting the background they need to learn
- Under education
- Under supervised teenagers and resulting problems
- "Leave no child behind" - meeting mandates

Indifferent population

- Apathy and substance abuse
- Apathy towards education
- Apathy towards education
- Apathy-very little concern for education beyond sound bites
- At-risk families
- Community apathy
- Lack of goals
- Lack of interest in the library
- Lack of parental involvement with some families
- Lack of parental support
- Lack of sophistication, narrow-mindedness
- Parental lack of interest and involvement
- Parents don't value teachers - we get paid too much in their opinion
- Population unwilling to support public agencies
- The non-residents do not want to pay a fee

- The public not having knowledge of library services
- The rural area demands a lot of best-sellers
- Underutilization of library services

Isolation

- Bedroom community located between Lansing and Grand Rapids, MI
- Changes due to interstate opening 2 miles away
- Distance in rural Wyoming
- Geographic isolation/population fluctuation
- Geographical barriers
- Isolated geographical centers of population
- Isolation (3)
- Isolation from larger towns
- Lack of access to a library
- Lack of transportation to access public services
- public transportation
- Remoteness
- Transportation
- Transportation to access available services/agencies

Development

- Development
- Impacts of tourism and natural resource development
- Keeping energy and life in small community
- Keeping our rural character in today's changing world
- Land development
- Losing agricultural land to development
- Loss of rural way of life
- Rapid development
- Rural development
- Tourism
- Tourist demands

Language barriers

- Adjusting to new Russian immigrants
- Amount of ESL students
- Change in the community - language differences and the need to keep up with
- Majority population is Spanish speaking
- More and more non-english speaking residents
- more Spanish speakers
- Rapid growth of Hispanic population
- Sovereignty and the loss of language/culture
- Spanish speaking

Taxes

- High property taxes
- High property taxes and lack of adequate support
- High taxation
- Higher taxes
- Increasing taxes
- Only farm taxes for support
- tax
- Taxes
- Untaxed areas

Outreach

- Awareness of library services/uses
- Communicating our services to people who won't read the paper or listen to the
- Farm community outreach
- getting people in the library
- Outreach
- Promoting reading and other library services

Human and technical resources

- Digital Divide
- I am the only certified librarian and very technicians in area
- Keeping library staffed by certified librarian
- Lack of current technology- i.e.... direct internet access such as cable, not dialup
- Staffing

Miscellaneous

- Affordable housing
- All of the above
- Agricultural drought
- Health care,
- Lack of housing for low incomes
- Low service history

Other Challenges

Inadequate space

- Becoming handicap accessible
- Inadequate building - not handicap accessible, too small
- Inadequate Space; no automation
- Lack of space (8)
- Lack of space - need to expand
- Lack of space for diverse collections
- Lack of space to expand collections

- Lack of space/need for larger facility
- Lack of space/shelves are full
- Limited space - bigger building needed
- Need more space
- No parking
- No room to expand
- Not enough room
- old building (3)
- Outgrowing building
- Outgrown building in 20 years
- Small building - no room to expand
- Small space - less than 600 sq. ft.
- Space (4)
- Space - we need a larger building
- Space in branches
- Space too small
- Space-building too small
- Too small
- Too small for collection and community size

Lack of money

- Budget cuts due to revenue caps and enrollment decline
- Can't provide full-time library assistance
- Cost of automating
- Declining revenue
- Decrease in potential funding
- Decreasing funding for staff
- funding
- Good pay for qualified staff
- High taxes
- I am afraid financial constraints will keep them from replacing me when I retire
- Lack of money
- Lack of money
- Lack of state government support
- Lack of support from administration
- lessen funding
- Library Boards
- Maintaining adequate funding in the near future
- monies for technology resources
- Not enough staff
- Not lack of funding but insecurity of public funds
- Now in capital campaign; very difficult to raise money
- Reduced budgets combined with increased use due to tourism
- Reduction in staff due to budget cuts

- Threatened staff positions,
- We do get some grant money for books, but no money for furniture and labor
- We receive 3% of our budget from private donations

Outreach

- Apathy - lack of caring or concern
- Internet use taking the place of books
- Keeping children reading
- Getting people to use the library
- Community outreach
- Dealing with social issues
- Difficulty in publicizing and encouraging use of library
- Public indifference
- Public relations
- Misperception of teaching staff as to the purpose of the library
- Motivating patrons to use library
- Stretching resources - reaching unserved population
- Student reliance on internet not library collection
- Surrounding unserved areas
- Unmotivated, under-achieving population which prefers videos & internet over reading
- Teacher involvement
- Young adult area - to reach out to them

Lack of qualified staff

- Adequate staffing
- For both staffing
- Good pay for qualified staff
- Keeping qualified staff for extended periods of time
- Lack of additional help - need an aide
- Lack of adequate # of staff
- Lack of adequate, informed use of what we have
- Lack of qualified staff (4)
- Proofreading skills
- Need more computer training
- Maintaining current staffing
- Maintaining staff for long periods of time
- No adult aide help that is qualified
- Potential loss of professional staff
- Staffing inadequate
- Technologically capable people to deal with equipment
- Which causes lack of qualified staff

Equipment

- Computers/technology
- Equipment

- Equipment also
- Equipment also
- Equipment; Technology
- Keeping up with technology and tech support
- Maintaining technology
- Maintaining online subscription database services
- preparation for automation
- Technology and computer lab need
- Television, videogames, videos, etc
- To keep up technologically
- Understanding and keeping current with technology advances

Poor collection

- Collection development
- Lack of variety of materials in Spanish
- materials
- Poor collection of books and materials also
- poor collections (4)
- Finding quality literature above 7th grade level
- Bi-lingual material

Lack of leadership

- Attitude of board/public
- Board of vision and involvement
- Dealing with patron issues
- Lack of understanding how libraries fit into the school curriculum
- Lack of vision and support of the role libraries play in education from the district level
- There is a movement in Kansas to take away the independence of Public libraries
- Lack of qualified trustees
- Poor central office leadership
- Principal's lack of support

Adapting to change

- Adapting services to changing demographics
- Changes in curriculum,
- Keeping up with change
- Loss of population
- Meeting new expectations for programs and services
- Responding to new needs

All of the above

- All of the above (4)

Overworked staff

- I run 2 libraries so services are only 1/2 time

- Lack of time to keep up with needs
- Staff is overworked
- workload of certified staff,

Miscellaneous

- Babysitting kids with nowhere else to go
- Many dysfunctional families
- Planning for a new library building
- Renovating a building to expand into
- Scheduling problems/conflicts
- Building the library from the ground up
- Combining with public library

Other Urgent Needs

Library skills

- Advance library skills
- Advanced computer/website/CAN training
- Advanced library skills for staff and customers
- Advanced training for staff
- Automation training
- Basic library skills and financial support
- Basic library skills for customers
- Basic library skills for volunteers and friends of the library
- Cataloging skills/training/updating
- Critical thinking/evaluation of sources
- Customer service
- Customer service
- Customer service skills
- Customer service training
- Customer service training
- Hands on training for volunteers
- Library skills for students
- Reference training for non-staff
- Reference/information services
- Specialized computer training for teachers and students
- Technology (distance learning, online resources, etc)
- Web design
- Library degree for programs for staff also

Time & space

- Classes through our system, little time to attend
- Lack of building
- Lack of first floor space
- Lack of space
- More Space
- Need real libraries in our district - have none
- Old buildings
- Space
- Space
- Time
- Time and money to take classes
- Time to digest & practice the training we already get
- Time to get things done-more staff!
- Time/money to take advantage of what there is
- Training and teaching staff on best way to yes LMC personnel
- We are located in the school and need more space

Human resources

- Credentialed librarian
- Grant writing
- Grant writing
- Leadership and teamwork
- Learning to work as a team
- Library coverage while librarian goes to training sessions
- Library degree staff after I retire
- More staff
- Multi-tasking, staff in small libraries have to do a variety
- Staff available to train library users in computer use
- Turn-over of part-time staff

Staff development

- Continuing education for staff
- Current trends and styles of teaching staff development
- CPDUs to keep up certification
- Grant writing classes
- Keeping connected with others in the field
- Ongoing training for library paraprofessionals
- Professional development opportunities for library staff
- Staff development such as OLA, ALA and other professional meetings
- Training for assistant
- Training for non-degree support staff
- Training in library development/planning

Marketing skills

- Dissemination on a grand scale of the mental benefits of books and libraries
- Ideas on how to motivate the population
- Marketing - getting the word out regarding our programs and services
- Marketing/PR
- Recognition that lack of MLS does not mean unable!
- PR
- PR Skills

Financial support

- Financial support also
- Financial support through scholarships and loans
- Funding for handicap accessibility
- Funding to keep libraries open more hours and to pay staff
- Grant money
- Grants

- Grants for staff development

Changing technology

- Technology changing so quickly
- Updates regarding PowerPoint 2002
- Keeping up to date with technology advancements
- Have a catalog system that's not consistently changing

Miscellaneous

- Adequate
- All of the above
- Catering more to school needs, than public library
- Convincing school board/principal of library needs
- Coping with government paper work
- Trustee knowledge of customer service
- Curriculum integration
- Equipment and Poor collections
- In service for teachers
- Integration of standards into content areas
- None
- Social
- Spanish language
- Standards

Other Technology Needs

Both hardware and software

- Automate collection
- Automated catalog
- Automation
- Automation
- Automation for all librarians in school district
- Automation for grades K-12
- Automation of collection and circulation
- Automation upgrade (software & hardware)
- Automation upgrade/migration
- Computer lab need
- Computer network
- Crummy system
- Maintaining and upgrading
- Money for automation library system
- Newer, high-end automation systems
- Replacement
- Replacement/upgrade for hardware and software

- Replacing old equipment
- To keep up to date
- Upkeep of existing equipment

Schools

- Elementary & Middle Schools
- Homeschool-headstart
- Home-schooling co-operatives
- Local Public School
- Local schools
- Public school
- Public School
- Public schools/private schools
- School (6)
- School District
- School district
- Schools and community groups

Hardware

- DVD players
- Funding to replace hardware regularly
- Lots of hardware that needs to be upgraded but no money
- Micro- film reader/printer
- Money for new hardware
- Outdated hardware
- Replacement of hardware
- Replacement of hardware
- Updated hardware (computers)
- We need quality computers for our office

Infrastructure

- Electrical wiring of building
- Improved infrastructure for technology (inadequate building, wiring, etc)
- Infrastructure
- More Space
- revamp work stations so less floor space is required
- Space (2)
- Space for more computers
- Space for technology
- We have no space for a second computer

Other collaborations

- AIME
- Air Force

- Gates Foundation (2)
- Other collaborations
- Other collaborations Statewide consortium
- Private companies, business owners
- Public and educational services
- Seniors groups
- Tribal organizations
- Consortia

Libraries

- Harrington Library Consortium
- local public library
- Main library - we are a branch
- None other than district libraries
- Other libraries
- Public libraries (2)

Training

- training for staff and customers (3)
- Training for volunteers and customers
- Training on evaluating websites

Connectivity

- Cost of internet access
- Cost of telecommunications
- Free internet access without filtering
- Quality of connectivity to the internet (2)

Software

- Cataloging software
- Cataloging software
- Software
- Software

Miscellaneous

- All of the above (2)
- Tech support
- Awareness of trustees of internet privacy issues
- Community access
- No technology needs
- Regional library system takes good care of us
- Social
- Time to develop and use what we have

Other collaborations

Schools

- AEA-schools
- Alumni groups
- central school
- consortium of school districts
- Cooperative Educational Service Agency no.5
- County schools and school districts (k-12)
- Educational Service Units
- Educational services district
- Elementary & private schools
- Elementary and Junior High Schools
- High schools (private and public)
- High schools, elementary schools, businesses, sports teams
- Homeschoolers (5)
- Honor society,
- K-12 schools (2)
- KIA schools
- Local high school
- Local primary and secondary school
- local private school library
- Local school (14)
- Local school district
- Local school system
- Local school systems
- Local schools- public and private
- Local/state career tech center
- Migrant school
- Other school groups, school parent groups, state student groups
- Other schools
- Other secondary schools
- parent organization
- Pre-K through 12th grades and home schooling
- Public and private schools
- Public and private schools and home schools
- Public school (15)
- School district
- School district
- School libraries in area
- School organizations
- School Reading Program
- School, parent groups
- schools (17)
- ISD

Libraries

- Assn. Of Rural & Small Libraries
- Big Country Lib. System
- BOCES
- BOCES (Regional Library Council)
- Consortium - other panhandle public libraries
- County libraries
- County public library system
- District/county libraries
- ESU, public library
- INCOLSA
- Indianhead Federated Lib. System
- Interlibrary Loan with Multitype Libraries
- KASL
- Libraries in large towns within the state
- Library cooperative, Washington County, OR
- Library cooperative; County Lib. Assn.
- Library groups-cooperatives
- Library system (4)
- local public library
- Local regional library system;
- Medical Library
- Multi-type Lib. Consortium
- Other area school libraries
- Other branches and main library
- Other health sciences libraries in state
- Other librarians in our library system
- Other libraries (6)
- Other libraries in the school district
- Other local libraries
- Other Nevada libraries
- Other public libraries (2)
- Other school libraries and district media
- Other small public and school libraries in state
- Our HP Library region/N.E. Cool BOCES
- Our library system office (Texas) and State Lib.
- Public libraries (18)
- Public library & library system
- Public library system
- Regional libraries
- Regional Library Systems
- SD State Library
- Shawnee Lib. System

- SLAWNY
- State library
- State library services
- We have a technical support consortium - NICCL

Business

- book stores
- Business & Industry
- Business and corporate
- business groups
- Businesses
- Corporations
- Gas Company/Walmart - grants
- ListServ,
- Local businesses
- Local businesses
- Local businesses
- Local businesses
- Local businesses
- Local businesses, local daycare and public schools
- Local REMC Electric Corp. - small grants
- Private sector
- SELCO

Community organizations

- AA,
- Book club
- community based organization,
- Community groups
- Friends
- Friends of the Library
- Friends Of The Library,
- Girl Scouts
- Ladies club
- MN Ed. Media Org.
- other non-profits
- Prime Timers
- Private organizations
- Weight Watchers Regional Lib. Training
- women's center

Government

- Chamber of Commerce
- Economic Development Council,

- Federal grants
- Public
- Regional Office of Education
- state agencies
- State Assn.

Arts organization

- Art center,
- Arts outreach
- Craft clubs; writing groups
- Cultural, Hispanic population
- Individual artists/performers
- local theater groups

Native Tribes

- Local Native Organization
- Tribal programs
- Tribal public library
- Tribes

Foundations

- Gates foundation
- Library Foundation
- local education foundation
- Where grants are available

Hospital

- hospital
- Hospital
- hospital

Miscellaneous

- All of the above
- daycare professionals
- LCLS
- Prisons
- Retirement community
- Senior citizen groups

Other ALA Resources

Financial aid

- Availability for library grants such as automation, software, hardware, card
- Financial aid to attend national conferences
- Funding for automation systems and computers
- Funding ideas, resource sharing
- Funding ideas, resource sharing ideas
- Funding support/advocacy
- Funding to attend staff development events
- Grant opportunities
- Grants
- Grants for a new building
- Grants for library staff who want to obtain MLS Degree
- Grants for materials and programs
- Grants to provide updated A/V and automation databases
- Info on grants for rural libraries
- Information on grants
- local schools
- Locate grant funding
- Money
- Money!!
- Out of state travel is very restricted at this time
- Scholarships for training, conferences
- Scholarships to attend events or go to library school

Schools

- Community college
- BOCES
- BOCES
- SLS-BOCES
- Elementary and high schools
- Elementary schools
- High schools
- Local schools,
- Public and private schools
- Public school
- Public schools
- Public schools,
- School (K-12)
- School Lib. Systems (State)
- Schools - elementary - public & private
- Students
- Teachers

Libraries

- Community (i.e. public library)

- Lib. Associations/Systems
- Library agencies, State Library, Regional Lib. Systems
- Library co-op
- Library system
- Local libraries
- Local public library
- Major library systems
- Networking groups
- other libraries
- Part of a consortium of 80 different libraries
- Public library
- Public library
- Public library
- School library system
- System and district libraries –

Advocacy for library funding and support

- A strong visible leader who is willing to come out and speak in the community to civic and educational organizations
- Advocacy for intellectual freedom and right to read - In other words, what ALA already does and does well!
- Advocacy for salaries/pay equity
- Advocacy for staffing positions
- Board of Trustee advocacy training/workshops
- Censorship help
- CIPA
- Help in getting an MLS back in the state
- How to get non-users into the library
- Legislative support and information
- Mandates for elementary and middle school librarians
- Sample policies
- Save us from the Patriot Act
- USA Patriot Act

ALA costs

- ALA and PLA dues
- Chapter ALA membership rates
- Information that does not cost huge amounts - not much money after paying with my outrageous dues
- Lower membership dues would allow staff to be members-cannot afford the m
- Make publications affordable
- The ALA is too expensive for me to join
- The cost to send staff to national conferences is prohibited
- Too expensive and too far to travel

- We do not belong to ALA because the yearly fee is too high
- Wish that marketed items were more affordable!

Staff development

- Bachelor's Degree and library certification for non masters level work
- Degrees for paras
- Need staff development done regionally - take conference programs on the road
- Staff development - Distance format ONLY
- Staff development in partnership with local library associations. I get more out of the smaller group meetings. National meetings, even statewide meetings
- Internet presentations (workshops) for free
- Online conference
- Efforts to inform and educate school administrators about library issues are overwhelming
- There is no interest and no money to get people trained
- Employment opportunities on web page (2)

Public sector

- SDLN through State Lib. In Pierre, SD
- State
- State agencies
- State and federally mandated school libraries staffed by professionals
- State library
- State library

Graphics and marketing resources

- Marketing to local communities and regions - specifically targeting local residents
- Consultants
- Digitizing resources
- Technology updates
- Traveling exhibits and programs

Private sector

- Business
- Charlotte Knights/Carowinds
- Local businesses
- Special interests, businesses
- Local businesses, consortium

Online communication

- Please improve ALA's website - changes made this year are annoying and time consuming
- Use of ALA website without having to be a member
- User-friendly website

- catalog to a database - building and furnishing grants (library/school)

Publications

- Positive PSMA's promoting libraries, reading, research, and programs that libraries provide
- PR and publications that don't lump us all in one group - there is a huge array of needs, resources, etc between my budget. Want to see ALA do something
- Book lists
- Quality summer reading program materials

Miscellaneous

- ALA had nothing for the small libraries to participate. Once again we were left behind!
- ALA provides NOTHING for small libraries and I don't see that change in the future
- For ALA to start taking in account the Native view
- Friends group
- Health Insurance for Members at competitive cost
- Human support from ALA/the state
- Indian Nation
- Less bureaucracy
- None really apply to our library now
- Oregon has been hurt by funding cuts. Non-certified personnel have been put in charge of libraries
- PALA
- We couldn't participate in the NASA/ALA program because we had no space.
- We need a new larger library, our building is old